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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 3700**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

First Named

Inventor : Todd M. Bjork et al.

Appln. No.: 10/681,480

Group Art Unit: 3733

Filed : October 8, 2003

For : SURGICAL CLAMP

Examiner: A. Ramana

Docket No.: M81.12-0065

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

**Mail Stop AF**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS  
BEING SENT BY U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS,  
TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,  
P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-  
1450, THIS

271 DAY OF February,  
2006.  
  
PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on November 28, 2005. Please amend the above-identified application as follows.